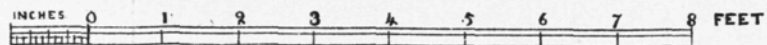
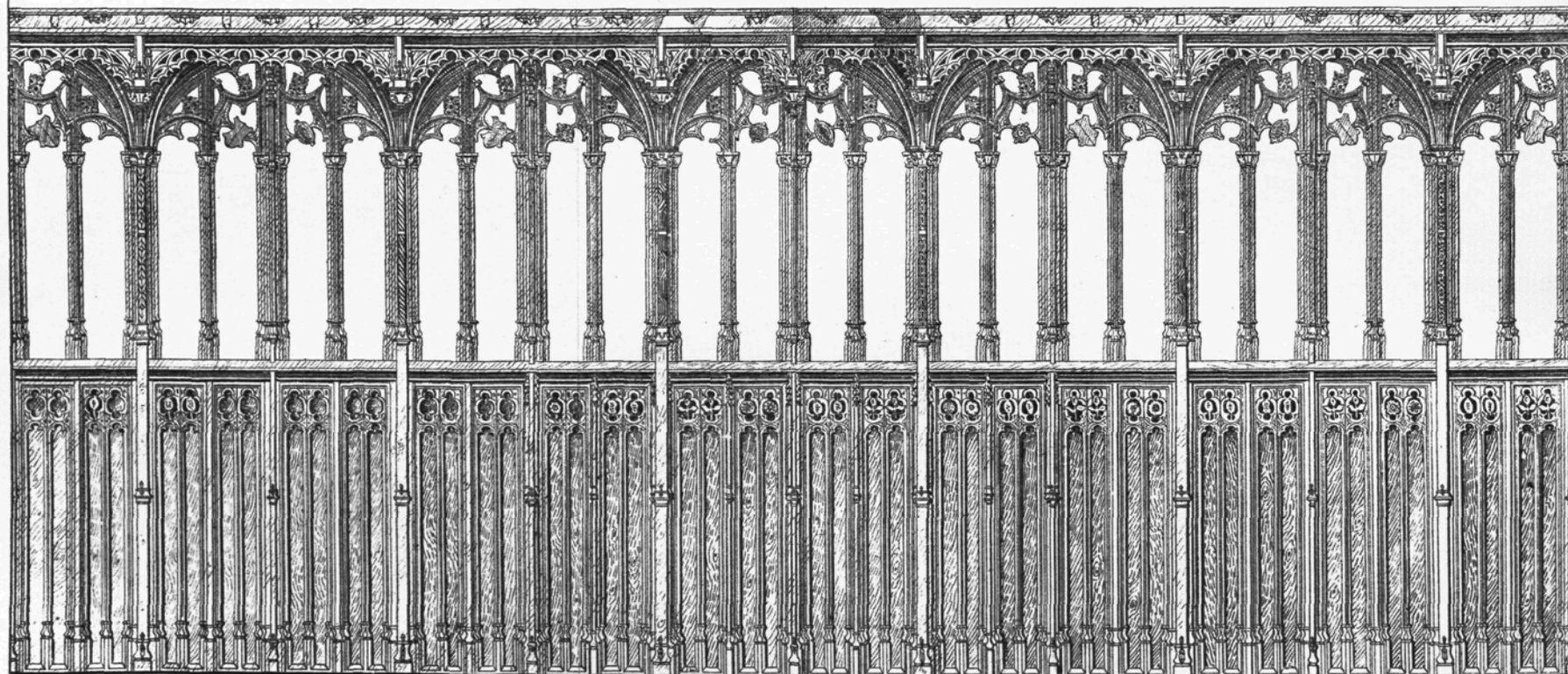


ROOD SCREEN, LULLINGSTONE CHURCH, KENT.

THE PRESENT GALLERY IS MODERN.



CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, LULLINGSTONE.

BY CANON SCOTT ROBERTSON.

THE Norman church here was so much restored in the reign of Edward III. (by John de Rokesle, probably) that the casual observer would assign its erection to the Decorated period. The church originally consisted of a nave and chancel, with a western bell-cot, in which hung one bell. The Edwardian restoration added nothing to this plan; but in Tudor times Sir John Peche and his widow added a north chapel to the chancel, built for him a magnificent monument of elaborately carved stone on the north side of the high altar, inserted a very handsome rood-screen, and filled the windows with painted glass.

The admirable carving of the rood-screen fixes its date. We see upon it the pomegranate badge of Katherine of Aragon, sometimes alone, but several times united with the rose of England; and there are also peach-stones which symbolize the donor's name. It must have been designed between A.D. 1502 and A.D. 1520. By a quaint conceit the carver cut the letter "é" upon each peach-stone, thus suggesting the word "peché," the sound of which resembles that of the family name of Peche (pronounced Peachey). From the designs of the carving on six shafts of this screen, we are led to compare it with the metal screenwork around the tomb of Henry VII. in Westminster Abbey. Similar work is found upon wooden screens in the churches of West Wickham and Brook; and we may perhaps be justified in suggesting either that Torregiano designed these screens, or that some of his Flemish workmen executed them upon the model of their master's work. I speak simply of the screen itself; the top rail, or balustrade, above the coving, is of later date.

In the year 1614 Sir Percyvall Hart restored part of the church. In the north window of the north chancel or chapel I read these words: "*Re-edified by Sir Percyvall Hart, knight, Anno Domini 1614.*"

A century later another restoration took place. This was due to the care and liberality of Percyvall Hart, Esq., an ardent Jacobite, devoted to Queen Anne, who visited him at Lullingstone. Several personal relics of that Queen, kept by Mr. Hart, are still preserved in Lullingstone Castle by his descendant Sir William Hart Dyke. Mr. Hart died in 1738, having been a "munificent repairer and beautifier of this church," as his epitaph declares. His monument, with 50 escutcheons, occupies the west wall of the north chapel. The ceilings of the church were his work. In the decorative plaster on the chancel arch, the alternation of mitres with royal crowns suggests Mr. Hart's devotion to "Church and Queen."

His generous interest in this house of prayer was continued by his son-in-law Sir Thomas Dyke, who caused the south window, of three lights, in the nave, to be repaired and restored. The subject chosen by him for the centre was Our Lord's Ascension. On either side of it are figures of St. Luke and St. Botolph. The artist was W. Peckatt, and the work was completed in the year 1754. The forty-four quarterings of the Harts' armorial bearings appear in this window, impaled with the Dyke coat (*Or, three cinquefoils sable*). As Sir Thomas Dyke's arms are placed in both the northern windows of the nave, we must suppose that he did something towards their restoration also. In the apex of the easternmost of the two appear the arms of his father-in-law Percyvall Hart (*Party per chevron azure and gules, three harts tripping or*); and in the dexter light at base, below the figure of Elijah the Prophet, are the Hart arms, with the eagle coat of Mr. Hart's wife Sarah Dixon. The arms of Sir Thomas Dyke, bearing those of his wife Ann Hart on an escutcheon of pretence, appear at the base of the sinister light, beneath the figure of St. John the Baptist. We must therefore infer that this north-east window of the nave was probably filled with its present glass



before Mr. Percyvall Hart died in 1738. The north-west window of the nave has the Dyke arms, bearing the Nutts coat in pretence, in the sinister light, beneath the figure of St. George slaying the dragon; and in the dexter light the Dyke coat with Hart in pretence, and the Hart crest with Peche motto, beneath glass which is of much earlier date than the time of Sir T. Dyke. That glass was made not later than the time of King Henry VIII. It represents a horrible legend of the martyrdom of St. Erasmus, a bishop, whose prostrate body is lying beneath a windlass, by the winding of which the saint is being disembowelled. It seems probable that Sir Thomas Dyke and Mr. Hart, both of them, repaired these windows, which may have been inserted by Sir John Peche or his widow, when they built the north chapel and his tomb.

The Decorated mouldings of the south-west and south-east doorways are good but simple. The chamfer-stops upon them shew, I think, how the semi-pyramid or dagger-stop of the Perpendicular style was suggested, and gradually attained.

Very interesting is the chancel of Lullingstone Church. As we enter, beneath the rood-screen, our feet pass over a strip of brass which commemorates John de Rokesle, who died in 1361. It is thus inscribed:

*"Hic jacet dominus Johannes de Rokesle quondam
dominus de Lullyngston qui obiit primo die
mensis Septembris Anno Domini Millesimo tricesimo
lvi cuius animæ propicietur Deus. Amen."*

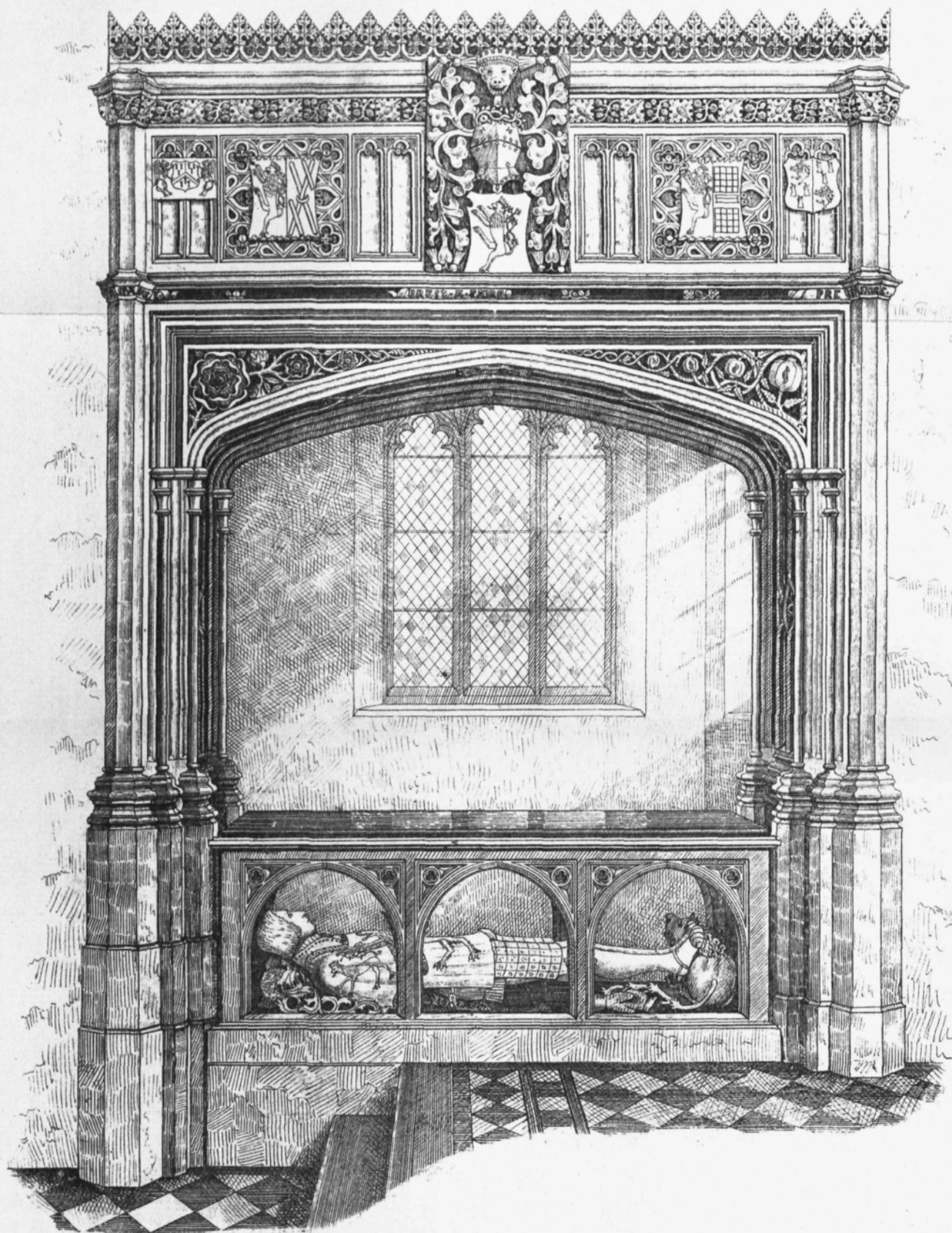
I believe that this John de Rokesle, the last of that family who possessed the manor of Lullingstone, was a younger son of Walter de Rokesle, and in Holy Orders. He seems to have been Rector of Chelsfield. His armorial bearings are on the sepulchral slab, a cross having in its dexter quarter a chess-rook, with a punning reference to the name Rooksley or Rokesle, now written Ruxley. From the feoffees of John de Rokesle the manor was purchased by John Peche, Alderman of London, whose great-grandson Sir William Peche is commemorated by a fine brass effigy in the centre of the chancel floor. Sir William, who probably died in 1488, not

in 1487, is represented in full plate armour (shewing five inches of a skirt of mail), with bare hands and head, the latter resting on his tilting helm. His sword, which lies above his body, has upon its scabbard the representation of a peach-tree running down its entire length. The inscription beneath him is remarkable, and perhaps unique :

“ Enea Willelmi Pecche hec est mortis imago
Marmore suppressi cui sua facta manent
Olim miles erat non prosunt militis arma
Mors jubet et morti cuncta creata fauent
Qui legis hoc scriptum memor esto quod morieris
Pro illo funde preces has que sequacis habes.
9^o die Mensis Aprilis Anno Domini 1487.”

The date of the year is engraved in Arabic numerals, seldom used in the Middle Ages. The figure 4 resembles an 8 which has lost the extremity of its base; the 8 is exactly like a small black-letter s; and the 7 is simply an isosceles triangle which has lost its base. Dates were almost always engraved in Roman numerals until long after the year 1487. The Peches' fork-tailed lion appears alone in two corners of the slab; in the others we see it once quartered with the three unicorns' heads borne by the family of Shelley, and once impaled with a fess on a chequy field (no doubt the arms of Sir William's wife), similar to the arms of the Cliffords.

The magnificent tomb erected in memory of Sir John Peche, son of Sir William, and the last of his name here, occupies the whole space north of the communion-table. The minute elaboration of its carving in every part quite baffles description. Sir John is represented at full length, clad in plate armour, over which he wears a surcoat embroidered with his arms. The motto, “*Prest à Faire*,” is wrought upon the breast of his surcoat, and its borders represent peaches in fruit upon two trees, which issue each from a separate flower-pot and wind along the edges of the neck and sleeves. The arms of Peche (*Azure*, a lion rampant *ermine*, with a forked tail, and with a crown of gold) appear repeatedly. The elaboration of carving extends even to the veins of the hands, which are forcibly sculptured. Above the effigy there is a handsome canopy of stone, exquisitely carved on its north and south sides. On both sides we see



Herbert Baker, mens et del. 1885

TOMB OF SIR JOHN PECHE IN LULLINGSTONE CHURCH, KENT.

SCALE 1 2 3 4 FEET

in the centre the Peche arms and crest, and on each side of that two other shields. On the south face, these flanking shields bear (1) the arms of the Grocers' Company; (2) those of Sir John Peche and Elizabeth Scroope his wife impaled; (3) those of Sir William Peche and his wife; (4) the arms of Peche quartered with Shelley's three unicorns' heads. On the north face, the flanking shields shew (1) the arms of Lord Scroope (Quarterly—1 and 4, *Azure*, a bend *or*, SCROOPE; 2 and 3, —, a saltire, intended for Tiptoft), impaling eleven roundels with a bird in dexter chief; (2) the capital letter A, having immediately beneath it a pomegranate; (3) the impaled arms of Sir John Peche and his wife; (4) a capital letter A of large size. On the south side, in the spandrels of the canopy, are pomegranates on the east and roses on the west, emblems of the royal mistress and master of Sir John. On the cornice, above the spandrels, thrice repeated, is his motto, "*Prest à Faire.*" On the north side of the canopy we read the words, "*Pecche me fieri fecit.*" We see in the west spandrel of the north side a branch laden with peaches pecked by a bird, and the initials I. and E. interlaced, being those of Sir John Peche and his wife Elizabeth. At the corresponding eastern end are peaches, on which the letter "é" is carved, intertwined with the pomegranate, together with the Peche lion, and the motto, "*Prest à Faire.*" The monument is a work of art, which repays careful study. Without such study its elaboration of details cannot be appreciated. It is quite probable that Sir John employed upon it Torregiano, and the artists who had been working in Henry VII.'s chapel at Westminster.

The repetition of the pomegranate of Katherine of Aragon, in close conjunction with the letter A and the rose, suggests that Arthur, Prince of Wales, was still alive when the tomb was designed. It is a remarkable fact that upon no other monument or building is there known to exist any similar allusion to the popular marriage of Arthur, Prince of Wales, to Katherine of Aragon. It thus becomes of double interest, as being unique. Some writers have mistaken this large capital letter A for the armorial coat of Kemsing (*Or*, a chevron and a fess intertwined *sable*), which was one of

the quarterings borne by the Peches. But no true herald could make this mistake.

Sir John Peche was Constable of Dover Castle and Warden of the Cinque Ports. He was also Lord-Deputy of Calais, and a great benefactor to the Grocers' Company in London, of which he was a freeman. He augmented the income of the Rector here, and left a dole to the poor, which is still distributed annually on the 1st of January.

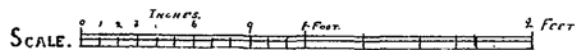
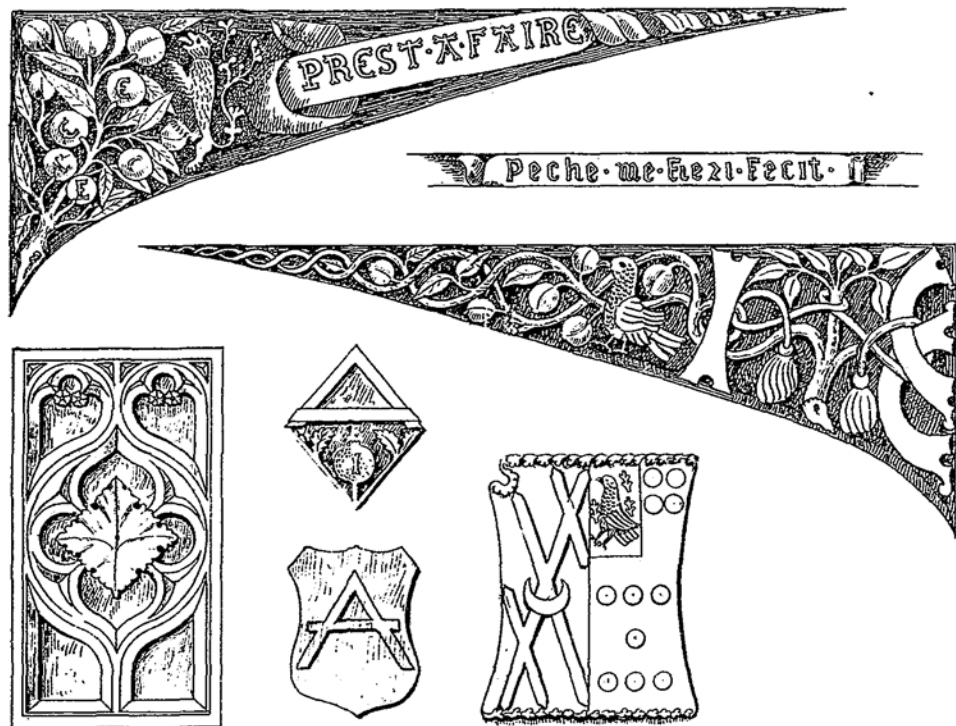
As Sir John Peche left no issue, his estates were inherited by Percyval Hart, the son of his only sister Elizabeth, who was twice married. Her first husband was John Hart of the Middle Temple, and of Orpington. After his death she became the wife of George Brooke, a younger son of John, fifth Baron Cobham. It was a remarkable match,* because her daughter married (as his third wife) Thomas Brooke, sixth Lord Cobham (ob. 1529), the eldest brother of George Brooke whom the widowed mother married. She died in July 1544, when she must have been nearly seventy years of age, if not more. On the floor of Lullingstone chancel there is a monumental brass bearing her effigy; the inscription runs thus:

"Of yo^r charyte pray for the soull of Elizabeth Cobham late the wyfe of George Cobham brother to the ryght honorable lord Cobham, and for the soule of her fyrst husband John Hart gentylman father and mother to the ryght worsshipfull Syr Percyvall Hart knyght wyche Elizabeth decesed the xvj day of July, in the yer of o^r lord god M^c CCCCxliiii, on whose soules Jh^u have m^ccy."

The effigy represents her as wearing an outer gown with very wide, shortened, open sleeves, lined with fur. Beneath them we see the large muslin sleeves (with ruffles at the wrist) of an under-robe. Between the tips of the fingers of her uplifted hands there is an object which may be a heart, but it looks like a small shield chequy. The large silk tassel of her girdle, formed of two rows of beads, hangs a little above her feet. She wears the common headdress of the period.

Another brass here commemorates a lady whose connection with the family cannot easily be traced. Her effigy is

* So remarkable that I, at first, doubted the accuracy of the inscription upon her monumental brass. She married the younger brother of her son-in-law.



M.B.
85.

DETAILS OF CARVING UPON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE CANOPY OF SIR JOHN PECHE'S TOMB.

smaller than that of Elizabeth Brooke or Cobham (*née* Peche). The inscription beneath it is :

“Of youre charrite pray for the soule of M^{res} Alice Baldwyn late gentil-woman to the lady Mary Princes of England which Alice decessed the x^o day of July Anno 1533, on hir soule jhu have mercy. Amen.”

There is in the church a small square slab of brass, brought from a church in Rutlandshire, which commemorates Ann Hall, a daughter of Frideswide Bray and her husband Sir Percyval Hart, son of John Hart :

“Here lyeth Anne the wyfe of Edward Hall y^e daughter of S^r Percifall Harte knight Her mother daughter and one of the coheires of the lorde Braye which Anne decessed the xxixth of September Anno Domini 1594.”

We now lift our eyes to the east window, of three lights, which contains very good glass of the time of King Henry VII., inserted by Sir John Peche. It represents, in the several lights, St. Agnes, St. Anne, and St. Elizabeth. Above these figures we observe, in the tracery, the royal arms, forming the 1st quarter in a shield, whereon the 2nd and 3rd bear a cross between 12 cross-crosslets, and the 4th is the coat of Mortimer, Earl of March ; beside them are the Prince of Wales's feathers, and the motto of the Garter. Connecting these emblems with the linked representation of the letter A and a pomegranate, found on both sides of the canopy of Sir John Peche's tomb, we may infer that this window and the tomb were designed before the death of Arthur, Prince of Wales, but after his marriage with Katherine of Aragon.

In the south window of the chancel there is painted glass, dated 1563, representing Solomon praying for and receiving the gift of wisdom ; St. Nicholas with the children he had restored to life, in a tub ; and three other subjects.

The whole wall south of the communion-table is occupied by a huge emblazoned monument to the memory of Sir Percyvall Hart and his wife Frideswide, sister and coheir of John, Lord Bray. Succeeding before May 1547 to the estates of his grandfather Sir John Peche, he was the first of the Hart family who resided here, and he did not remove to this

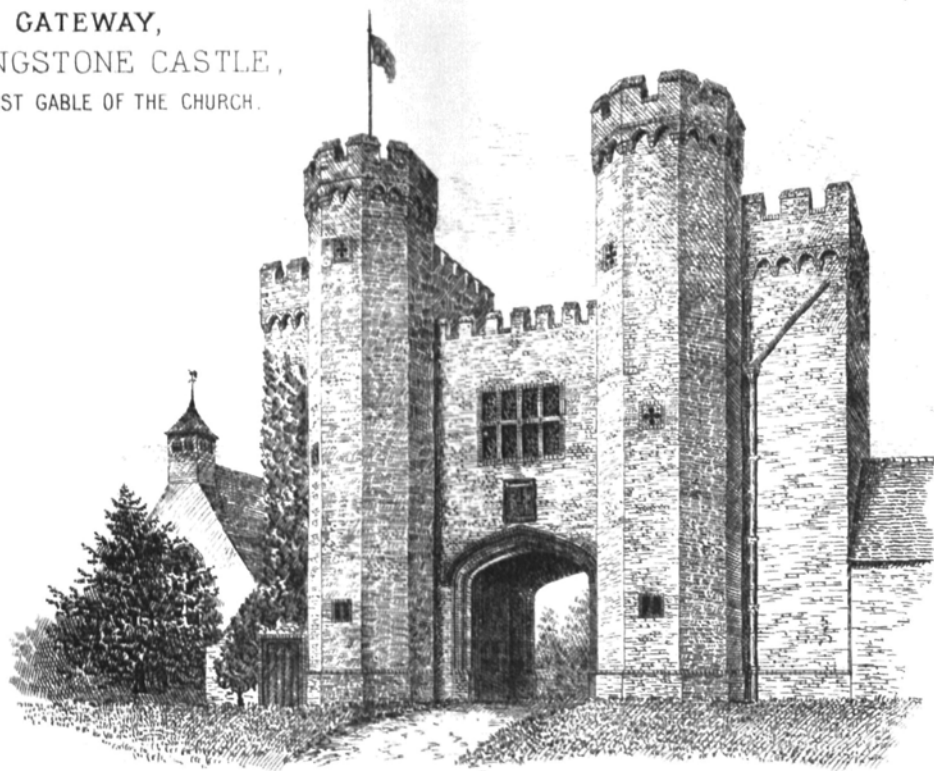
place until about A.D. 1560. Of the three shields of arms emblazoned on his tomb two bear quarterly Hart and Peche, but that upon the right hand (or west) contains the many quarterings of his wife. These Bray quarterings can be seen to advantage here and at Cobham, as George, Lord Cobham, married another Bray heiress.

Sir Percyvall Hart acted as Chief Server and Knight Harbinger to four sovereigns, Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth. King Henry VIII. was sponsor for Sir Percyvall's eldest son, Henry, at his baptism on the 29th of March 1531. The King's gift to the child cost £3 6s. 8d.* Six years later he knighted Sir Percyvall Hart, on the 18th of October 1537. In his old age, Sir Percyvall Hart entertained Queen Elizabeth, in July 1573, at his house in Orpington, which she christened Bark Hart, in memory of a water pageant on the River Cray, prepared by Sir Percyvall in her honour. Two years later was painted a triptych, with portraits of Sir Percyvall and his two sons, which still adorns the hall of Lullingstone Castle. Sir Percyvall leans one hand on a gold-headed cane, but his left rests upon an hour-glass, beneath which we read, "*Expecto horam libertatis meæ.*" He died in 1580, aged eighty-four. The silver-hilted dagger depicted as being in his girdle is still preserved at Lullingstone—its hilt contains a knife and fork; the remainder of the suit of clothes in which he sat for his portrait was destroyed in 1832, when the ravages of moths in them had rendered them rotten and full of holes. The quaint inscription on his tomb is as follows:

"Percivall Hart, goode knight, lieth here; y^e heir to Peche was,
 Who did his daies in service of four worthi princes pass;
 Of whom the first him knighthode gave, but all him favoured muche.
 And though the change of reignes and sway of state sometime were suche,
 As serched all sorts, his name in question never came nor went.
 His yowth in wars abrode, his age at home in peace, he spent.
 Chief sewer and knight harbinger in court his places were,
 And those two rowmes, in those four reignes, with credit great he bare.
 In Lord Braie's blode he matched, wherethrough twelve children he obtained;
 Which, as their states and ages cravde, he orderlie uptraine.

* *Privy Purse Expenses of Henry VIII.*, p. 136.

GATEWAY,
LULLINGSTONE CASTLE,
AND WEST GABLE OF THE CHURCH.



H.B. DEL.
1885.

Himself, his house and houshold train, his diet, and his port,
 With what to worship else might tend, he usde in such goode sorte
 As to his praise just prooffe procur'd, wheras he had to deal,
 A friend to all, a foe to none, fast to his common weal.
 Here fourscore years and four, with men, he lyvd on earth to die ;
 And dead, with saints in heaven now lives, and shall eternallie.

Obiit vicesimo primo die Maii 1580."

Before leaving the chancel, we draw attention to its fittings. Oaken stalls line its walls, and are returned at its west end. Its pavement, like that of the nave, is formed of marble, black and white; but here it is laid in squares; in the nave, it is in lozenges.

The north chapel was not completed until after the death of Sir John Peche in January 1521-2. In a codicil to his will he left to his wife, for the cost of its completion, all the gold chains, which he had with him in Ireland, valued at £220. A three-light window in the north wall of the chapel contains fragments of glass of various ages. In the central light the oldest glass shews an archbishop and a bishop side by side; the colouring is very good. There is a red rose at the top. The Hart coat of arms, and the words, "Re-edified by Sir Percyvall Hart, knight, 1614," appear beneath the archbishop, and lower still some scene is depicted. In the right-hand (eastern) light is this text, "If ani man thirst come to me and drinck," surrounding a representation of our Lord as crucified on the trunk of a huge vine; from the base of the trunk flows a fountain of water.

The east window of this chapel contains views of Venice and of a castle, and several armorial coats of the Peche family. In the north light the Peche lion impales, quarterly, Scroope and Tiptoft; these were the arms of Sir John Peche and his wife Elizabeth, who built this chapel. In the central light we see, twice repeated, a small rebus of their names; viz., the initials J and E flanking the stem of a peach-tree. Above them on a large scale is this coat, a cross between twelve crosslets *or*. Higher up is a fragment shewing the Peche lion, impaling Butler and Sudely quarterly. At base appears the Peche lion in a wreath of peach branches, as engraved by Boutell in his *English Heraldry* (1875, p. 149) to illustrate the word "rebus."

The east end of this chapel is occupied by the large monument of Sir George Hart and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of John Bowes of Staffordshire. He was the second son but ultimately the heir of that Sir Percyvall Hart who entertained Queen Elizabeth. He died July 16th, 1587, aged fifty-five. The full-length effigies of Sir George and his wife represent them as each clasping affectionately one hand of the other. The heraldic shields of both appear; the arms of the lady being, *Ermine*, three bows *gules* in pale. Between their heads there is a sheaf of arrows, and at their feet a lion. Allegorical figures adorn the corners of the tomb. Behind is a standing skeleton, beneath which we read the word "mors"; an angel, bearing a wreath, is labelled "resurrectio": in front are two cherubs—one, with a spade, represents "labor"; the other, with a skull, is "quies." The tomb likewise enumerates the five children of Sir George, named Percyvall (who restored this chapel in 1614), Robert, George, Frances, and Elizabeth. The effigies of the worthy knight and his lady are coloured; the whole group is pleasing; the artist has gone out of the ordinary groove, and produced an original work; although it is not one which modern taste will thoroughly approve.

The restorer of the north chapel, the second Sir Percyvall Hart, was knighted by Queen Elizabeth, June 1, 1601. He died in March 1641-2, having enjoyed the Lullingstone estate more than fifty-four years; he succeeded his father, Sir George, in 1587. He married twice; his first wife died in July 1595; she was Anne Manwood, whose brother, Sir Peter Manwood, married Frances Hart, sister of Sir Percyvall. His second wife was Jane Stanhope, daughter of Sir Edward Stanhope. By each of these ladies Sir Percyvall had a son.

He was succeeded here by William, his son by Anne Manwood, who enjoyed the estate for nearly thirty years, dying in 1671, aged seventy-seven; his monumental slab is in the floor of this chapel. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Anthony Weldon of Swanscombe, who survived him until 1677, but he left no issue. Consequently his nephew, the third Sir Percyvall (whose father, Sir Henry, was son of the

second Sir Percyvall by his second wife Jane Stanhope), became the heir and successor of Mr. William Hart. Sir Henry Hart, who was knighted at the coronation of King Charles I., Feb. 2, 1525-6, died before 1640.

The third Sir Percyvall, after thirty years' tenure of the estates, died in 1700, and was followed by his more celebrated and active son, Percyvall Hart, Esq., who twice represented Kent in Parliament, and five times contested the seat. He was honoured by a visit from Queen Anne. The bedroom, with the identical furniture used by her Majesty, is still shewn. There is a full-length portrait of "good Queen Anne" in the state drawing-room of Lullingstone Castle. This good church restorer and warm Jacobite, Mr. Hart, had no son by his wife Sarah, daughter of Edward Dixon, Esq., of Tunbridge. Consequently he was the last of his name here. His daughter and heiress Anne Hart (who up to the day of her death always wore in her bosom a miniature of "The Pretender") married (as her second husband) Sir Thomas Dyke, who restored the park and readopted the title of castle for his house. The quaint epitaph upon Mr. Percyvall Hart in Lullingstone Church was probably written by Sir Thomas Dyke:

"In memory of Percyvall Hart Esq^o the Munificent Repairer and Beautifier of this Church: Himself a true lover of the Church of England and Representative of this County in the two last Parliaments of her most Pious Majesty Queen Anne during which time the Church and Clergy received greater tokens of Royal Bounty than from the Reformation to her time, or, since, to this day. Mr Hart's steady attachment to the old English Constitution Disqualified him from sitting any more in Parliament; Abhorring all Venality and scorning as much to buy the People's Voices as to sell his own, Conscious of having always preferred the interests of Great Britain to that of any Foreign State, he passed the remainder of his life in Hospitable Retirement with as much tranquillity as possible under the declension both of his own health and that of His Native Country which when he could not serve he never ceased to deplore.

"He married Sarah y^e daughter of Edward Dixon Esq. of Tunbridge by whom he had one Daughter, Anne, married to Sir Thomas Dyke, Baronet, of Horeham in Sussex. He dyed the 27th day of October 1738, aged 70. M^{rs} Hart dyed y^e 6th day of November 1720, aged 57. The curious Inspector of these monuments will see a short account of an Ancient Family for more than four Centuries contented with a moderate estate, not wasted by Luxury nor increased by Avarice. May

their posterity emulating their Virtues long enjoy their Possessions. Percyvall Hart Esq^o was Baptized y^e 7th of May 1666 and Buried the 6th of November 1738. M^{rs} Sarah Hart wife of Percyvall Hart Esq^o was buried November 14, 1720."

In this long but quaint epitaph we have a very graphic picture of the state of feeling in Kent when the Hanoverian succession to the throne was still a novelty.

Sir Thomas Dyke, having completed in 1754 the restoration of the south window in the nave, probably the last portion of his work in this church, died two years later in 1756, aged fifty-eight; but his wife Anne (*née* Hart), the true owner of Lullingstone, survived until November 1763, when she died, aged seventy-one. "Dame Anne Dyke" is commemorated by a handsome mural tablet, with profile bust of her, on the north wall of the north chapel. It bears, upon a lozenge, her own Hart arms between those of her two husbands. On the dexter side is the coat of Sir Thomas Dyke; on the sinister is that of her first husband, John Bluet, Esq., of Holcomb Court, Devon, who died Dec. 17, 1728, aged 29, and was buried here. The Bluet coat is, *Or*, a chevron *argent* between three eagles displayed *sable*. Her son, Sir John Dixon Dyke, disliked passing over a bridge every time he entered or left his house. Consequently he pulled down the handsome inner gateway of Lullingstone Castle, and filled up the moat. His epitaph in this church carries on the history of the family :

"To the memory of Sir John Dixon Dyke of Lullingstone Castle and Horeham in the County of Sussex, Baronet, and of Dame Philadelphia Payne, his wife, daughter of George Horne Esq^o of the Co. of Sussex, who departed this life the 8th day of January 1804.

"Sir John Dixon Dyke was son of Sir Thomas Dyke and Dame Anne his Wife. He was born the 25th of November 1732, and departed this life the 6th of September 1810. Generous, Loyal and Hospitable, Sir John was beloved and respected by all who knew him. He was a right true English Gentleman and the sound principles which secured to him the esteem of his friends are affectionately remembered by him who offers this slight tribute to his memory.

"Also to the memory of Sir Thomas Dyke bart., son of the above Sir John Dixon Dyke, and Dame Philadelphia Payne his wife. He was born the 29th of December 1765 and departed this life the 29th of November 1831."

This Sir Thomas Dyke (the fourth baronet) never married;

consequently his brother, Sir Percyval Dyke, succeeded to the title and estates in 1831. Having enjoyed them for fifteen years, he died in 1846, aged seventy-nine, leaving several children, of whom the eldest became Sir Percyval Hart-Dyke. That baronet was the father of the two young men whose epitaphs here follow :

"ALSO to the memory of William Hart Dyke, seventh son of Sir Percyval Hart Dyke of Lullingstone and Horeham before mentioned, Baronet, and Dame Anne his wife, who died in the East Indies, the 7th of September 1831 aged 23 years.

"Of Anne Jenner Dyke their eldest daughter who departed this life the 21st day of October 1836 in the 37th year of her age.

"And of Octavius Hart Dyke their eighth son a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy. He departed this life the 8th of July 1844 aged 35."

Sir Percyval Hart-Dyke died in 1875, and the traditions of the family are now worthily upheld by his second but eldest surviving son, the Right Hon. Sir William Hart-Dyke, M.P. for Mid-Kent, and Chief Secretary for Ireland in 1885. Sir William has recently done much to improve the interior of the church, by cutting down the old square oaken pews to a proper height and rearranging them, and by flooring them with solid blocks instead of boards. He thus brought to light a pretty piscina in the nave.

The well-preserved monuments of Lullingstone Church present to us memorials of the history of one family, which for more than five centuries has been seated here, and has during that long period been ever careful for this their parish church. The pedigree of the Lords of Lullingstone Manor, for 500 years, from John Peche (1361) to Sir William Hart-Dyke (1885), will be found on a subsequent page of this volume. Whether called by the name of Peche, or of Hart, or of Dyke, the unbroken descent of the same strain of blood and of feeling finds in this church abundant testimony. A family tradition directs that, whenever the heir to the property marries, he shall drop a gold coin into an ancient bag of similar coins, which have been so deposited by his predecessors. He and his family are forbidden to count the contents of the bag. To worthy scions of this old family, my kind friend the late Colonel John Dixon Dyke of Sittingbourne, and his nephew Sir William Hart-Dyke, I am indebted for much assistance in preparing this paper.

RECTORS OF LULLINGSTONE ST. BOTOLPH.

GALFRIDUS.

1322. April 2. PETER NICOLE DE GELDEFORD (resigned in 1331). Patron, *Isabel de Rokeslee*.
1331. April 4. JOHN DE ROKESLE (on resignation of Peter de Guldeford). Patron, *Isabel de Rokeslee*.
1334. Jan. 14. PETER DE ROKESLE (on resignation of John de R.). Patron, *Isabel de Rokeslee*.
1335. Nov. 18. RICHARD DE CHESTRE. Patron, *Isabel de Rokeslee*.
1338. July 9. ADAM DE BRANKETRE (succeeded R. de Chestre).
1349. Feb. 20. WILLIAM SPACKETT (succeeded Adam de B.). Patron for this turn, *Ds. John de Rokesle*.
- WILLIAM CHATTESWORTH (exchanged in 1355).
1355. Mar. 26. RICHARD SUTHTERNEYE, rector of Lokton (exchanged again in 1356).
1356. July 2. JOHN DE SUTTON (rector of Woldham). Patron, *Master John de Rokesle*.
1361. June 1. WILLIAM CHAMBERLAYNE (exchanged in 1373). Patron, *John de Rokesle*.
1373. July 5. ROBERT GAYNESBURGHE (vicar of East Malling). ROGER BARET (exchanged in 1391).
1391. Feb. 6. ROBERT HARDEGRAY (rector of Wyngford, Lincoln dioc.). Patron, *Sir Wm. Peche*.
1398. April 15. RICHARD WHITE* (on the death of Hardegray). Patron, *Sir Wm. Peche*.
1418. May 11. THOMAS WESTBORNE (on the death of White). Patron, *John Peechey*.
- ROBERT AILEWARD (died in 1440).
- JOHN SQUERY in 1466 was "custos of the Free Chapel."
1499. May 22. JOHN HATTUN.†
1502. May 1. JOHN BISHOPTREE† (canon of St. Augustine's), resigned 1508.
1508. Nov. 14. JOHN BEDALL† (died 1528). Patron, *Sir John Peechey*.
- 152 $\frac{2}{3}$. Feb. 10. JOHN DEANE, who resigned in 1547. Patron, *Elizabeth, widow of Sir John Peechey*.
1547. May 17. THOMAS CLAVELL† (on the resignation of J. Deane). Patron, *Percyval Hart*.
- 155 $\frac{2}{3}$. Jan. 21. John Lawghe was rector of Lullingstane.

* During the incumbency of Richard White the Parish of St. John the Baptist, Lullingstane, was in some sense united with that of St. Botolph, Lullingstone, on the 8th of October 1412 (*Registrum Roffense*, p. 478).

† Rectors also of St. John the Baptist, Lullingstane, to which Mr. Simon Bynde was presented, Feb. 2, 1528-9, by the feoffees of Henry Borough; but John Deane was presented on May 1st, 1529, by Sir Thomas Borough. In 1582 Michael Anstey was presented by George Haute, who was authorised by J. Sybill, to whom the first and next presentation had been granted by William, Lord Borough.

1560. June 9. John Dawlyn was instituted to Lullingstane, being presented by Joan Goldwell.
1570. May 22. Robert Underwood was rector of Lullingstane.
1575. July 8. THOMAS GATTE, GOFFE, or Gosse, died 1578.
1578. June 1. MICHAEL ANSTEY* (buried 1630-1, Jan. 15). Patron, *Sir Percyval Hart*.
1631. April 29. RICHARD HARRIOT, also vicar of Eynsford. In Aug. 1647 the Committee of Parliament said he had deserted his cure, having two benefices. Patron, *Sir Percyval Hart*.
1663. Aug. 18. WILLIAM GIBSON (vicar of Mepham and West Malling), died in 1671. Patron, *William Hart*.
- 167 $\frac{1}{2}$. Feb. 26. EDWARD TILSON† (died 1726), vicar of Eynsford. Patron, *Percyval Hart*.
1726. Jan. 27. EDWARD TILSON, junior, who had been a scholar in Rochester Cathedral School, and died vicar of Eynsford March 1747-8. Patron, *Percyval Hart*.
1748. DAVID LAMB, also rector of Ridley (died 1772). Patron, *Sir Thomas Dyke*.
1772. April 10. MARMADUKE LEWIS, who was educated at Westminster School and Christ Church, Oxford. He died in June 1806. Patron, *Sir John Dixon Dyke*.
1806. JOHN KEMBLE, until Nov. 1819.
1820. Jan. 3. JOHN THOMPSON, resigned June 12, 1828.
1828. THOMAS HART DYKE, died June 25, 1866.
1866. Oct. ROBERT BROWNE, until 1871.
1871. Mar. 1. HUGH HATHORN WOOD, until 1877.
1877. Jan. 11. ALBERT BROOKE WEBB.

* See note † on preceding page.

† In April 1712 when Edward Tilson was rector of Lullingstone, and the vicarage of Lullingstane was vacant, the two benefices were united in perpetuity (*Registrum Roffense*, p. 478).